

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for adjusting power consumption in a device, the method comprising the steps of:

in response to an emergency mode situation, receiving a command to enter a low power mode; and

adjusting, in response to receiving the command, at least one operating mode of the device so as to enter a low power operating mode that still supports message exchange of the device but disables or alters features of the device not necessary to the operation of the device;

wherein the command includes a receiver identification, and the method further comprises the step of determining if the receiver identification matches an identification associated with the device;

wherein the receiver identification comprises a location description, and the determining step comprises comparing the location description to a current location of the device, wherein an event that causes the emergency mode situation at least partially occurs in the location description;

wherein adjusting at least one operating mode includes selecting a primary communication system for the device and turning off or reducing the frequency in which other secondary communication networks are monitored by the device.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in the adjusting step, the at least one operating mode includes a quality of service setting, a vocoding ratio, a BER threshold that initiates background scanning, a frequency of monitoring other communications networks, a definition of a function key, an operating mode of a display, a resolution of a display, a sensor, a CPU clock speed, or an alert time.
3. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
receiving a second command to exit the low power mode; and
adjusting, in response to receiving the second command, the at least one operating mode of the device so as to exit the low power operating mode.
4. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of preventing a user from changing the at least one operating mode while the device is in the low power operating mode.
5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing at least one status indicator for indicating at least one of an emergency situation and that the device is operating in the low power operation mode.

6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1,
wherein the command is part of an alert message that also includes a uniform resource locator, and the method further comprises the step of presenting information associated with the uniform resource locator.
7. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the adjusting step comprises:
presenting a user with a plurality of operating modes;
accepting an input from the user that indicates a selected operating mode that is chosen from the plurality of operating modes; and
placing the device into the selected operating mode.
8. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of continuing to operate the device after a battery energy level has fallen below a normal operating threshold.
9. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
monitoring an energy level of a battery;
comparing the energy level to a threshold;
transmitting an indication of the energy level to a central controller; and
providing an indication that the indication of the energy level has been transmitted.

10. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
monitoring an energy level of a battery;
comparing the energy level to a threshold;
transmitting an indication of the energy level to a central controller; and
providing an indication of an estimated time of arrival of a replacement battery.
11. (canceled)
12. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the command to enter the low power mode is initiated by a user of the device.
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) An electronic device comprising:

a receiver for receiving, in response to an emergency mode situation, a command to enter a low power mode; and

a mode controller communicatively coupled to the receiver, the mode controller being capable of adjusting at least one operating mode of the device so as to enter a low power operating mode when the command is received by the receiver wherein the low power operating mode still supports message exchange of the device but disables or alters features of the device not necessary to the operation of the device

wherein the command includes a receiver identification, and the mode controller further determines if the receiver identification matches an identification associated with the device;

wherein the receiver identification comprises a location description, and the mode controller further compares the location description to a current location of the device, wherein an event that causes the emergency mode situation at least partially occurs in the location description;

wherein the mode controller is capable of adjusting at least one operating mode by selecting a primary communication system for the electronic device and turning off or reducing the frequency in which other secondary communication networks are monitored by the electronic device.

16. (previously presented) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the at least one operating mode includes a quality of service setting, a vocoding ratio, a BER threshold that initiates background scanning, a frequency of monitoring other communications networks, a definition of a function key, an operating mode of a display, a resolution of a display, a sensor, a CPU clock speed, or an alert time.

17. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the receiver is further able to receive a second command to exit the low power mode, and the mode controller is capable of adjusting the at least one operating mode of the device so as to exit the low power operating mode when the second command is received by the receiver.

18. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the mode controller prevents a user from changing the at least one operating mode while the device is in the low power operating mode.

19. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, further comprising at least one status indicator for indicating at least one of an emergency situation and that the device is operating in the low power operation mode.

20. (previously presented) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the command is part of an alert message that also includes a uniform resource locator, and the electronic device further comprises a display for presenting information associated with the uniform resource locator.

21. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the mode controller is capable of:

presenting a user with a plurality of operating modes;

accepting an input from the user that indicates a selected operating mode that is chosen from the plurality of operating modes; and

placing the device into the selected operating mode.

22. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, further comprising:

means for monitoring an energy level of a battery, comparing the energy level to a threshold, and transmitting an indication of the energy level to a central controller; and

an indicator for indicating an estimated time of arrival of a replacement battery.

23. (canceled)

24. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein in the low power operating mode, the electronic device continues to operate after a battery energy level has fallen below a normal operating threshold.

25. (original) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the command to enter the low power mode is initiated by a user of the device.
26. (canceled)
27. (canceled)
28. (previously presented) The electronic device according to claim 15, wherein the location description comprises a tower identification, a network identification, a zip code, an area code or a time zone.

29. (currently amended) A computer readable medium encoded with computer programming instructions executable by a device that cause the device to perform the steps of:

in response to an emergency mode situation, receiving a command to enter a low power mode; and

adjusting, in response to receiving the command, at least one operating mode of the device so as to enter a low power operating mode that still supports message exchange of the device but disables or alters features of the device not necessary to the operation of the device;

wherein the command includes a receiver identification, and the computer programming instructions further cause the device to perform the step of determining if the receiver identification matches an identification associated with the device;

wherein the receiver identification comprises a location description, and the determining step comprises comparing the location description to a current location of the device, wherein an event that causes the emergency mode situation at least partially occurs in the location description;

wherein adjusting at least one operating mode includes selecting a primary communication system for the device and turning off or reducing the frequency in which other secondary communication networks are monitored by the device.

30. (previously presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the adjusting step comprises:

presenting a user with a plurality of operating modes;

accepting an input from the user that indicates a selected operating mode that is chosen from the plurality of operating modes; and

placing the device into the selected operating mode.

31. (previously presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 29, further comprising computer programming instructions for causing the device to perform the step of continuing to operate the device after a battery energy level has fallen below a normal operating threshold.

32. (previously presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 29, further comprising computer programming instructions for causing the device to perform the steps of:

monitoring an energy level of a battery;

comparing the energy level to a threshold;

transmitting an indication of the energy level to a central controller; and

providing an indication that the indication of the energy level has been transmitted.

33. (canceled)

34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the location description comprises a tower identification, a network identification, a zip code, an area code or a time zone.

36. (currently amended) A method for controlling an electronic device, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving at least one of data and voice information from the device; and

in response to an emergency mode situation, transmitting a message to the device, the message including a command instructing the device to enter a low power mode to conserve power during the emergency mode situation, wherein the low power mode still supports message exchange of the electronic device but disables or alters features of the device not necessary to the operation of the electronic device;

wherein the command also includes a receiver identification, and the method further comprises the step of determining if the receiver identification matches an identification associated with the device;

wherein the receiver identification comprises a location description, and the determining step comprises comparing the location description to a current location of the device, wherein an event that causes the emergency mode situation at least partially occurs in the location description;

wherein the low power mode includes selecting a primary communication system for the electronic device and turning off or reducing the frequency in which other secondary communication networks are monitored by the electronic device.